

Aoun vows to oust Syrians

BEIRUT (R) — Artillery duels raged across Beirut's green belt Tuesday, killing at least 38 people in Lebanon's worst sectarian clashes for two years. Military leader Major-General Michel Aoun declared that a battle had begun to drive Syrian forces from the country. But there was no independent confirmation of his charge that some of the 25,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon had joined the fighting (see earlier story on page 2). Aoun, whose government competes for power with a civilian rival backed by Syria, told reporters at the presidential palace in the Faqra suburb of Beirute: "We have only one goal which is to liberate our land. We cannot any more be under the mercy of the Syrian gun..." He denied that his troops killed civilians, saying they were shooting only at the Syrians. Syrian forces, who originally arrived under an Arab League peacekeeping mandate in 1976, are deployed in west Beirut, the north and the Bekaa — about two-thirds of the country. Tuesday's shelling was the first head-on clash between the rival governments which picked up the fragments of power when parliament failed to elect a new president last September.

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Jordan, Tunisia discuss tourism

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Tunisia opened talks here Tuesday to plan further cooperation in promoting tourism in the two countries and to coordinate plans for stimulating the tourism industry.

Visiting Tunisian Minister of Tourism Mohammad Jugham held talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thousan Hindawi during which they voiced their countries' desire to promote the existing cooperation and to benefit from each other's experiences in tourism-related affairs and means of attracting foreign tourists to Jordan and Tunisia.

Earlier Tuesday, Minister of Tourism Yanal Hikmat held separate talks with the Tunisian Minister to discuss scopes of cooperation. The talks covered traditional tourist industries, desert tourism, marketing of touristic sites abroad, joint cooperation in attracting tourists from Europe, as well as training of personnel employed in touristic centres and hotels.

The visiting Tunisian Minister expressed the view that the two countries can and are bound to carry out close cooperation in tourism-related fields.

The Tunisian Minister met later with Information Minister Hani Khasawneh who outlined Jordan's information policies. Information services in the Kingdom, Khasawneh noted, are being employed to serve the country's socio-economic projects.

Jugham arrived in Amman Monday evening on a four-day official visit.



Regent visits Armed Forces HQ

HIS Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday called at the army headquarters in Amman and met with Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb. Abu Taleb's

senior aides, including the Armed Forces inspector general, attended part of the meeting (Petra photo)

Qasem: Palestinian uprising increasingly isolated Israel

RIYADH (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem

Tuesday said the Palestinian people's revolt has continued and is escalating day after day, thus tightening the grip on the enemy's neck, exposing its oppressive practices and increasing its isolation.

Addressing the four-day meetings of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), currently held in Riyadh, Qasem said the ongoing intifada in the occupied Palestinian land "is not a mere reaction to the oppressive Israeli practices and behaviour, but it is a true reflection of the Palestinians' will and resolve to restore their rights and

freedoms, including their right to self determination on their national soil."

Qasem noted that Jordan's decision last year to sever legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank has contributed to highlighting the Palestinian identity.

He added that the decision was consistent with the resolutions of the various Arab and Islamic summits, and that it was in response to the requests of the Palestinian leadership.

The decision, Qasem said, has given the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) the full responsibility for restoring the Palestinian rights.

Speaking about last year's

meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) which was held in Algiers, Qasem said that the meeting was created a new era in the Palestinian political efforts, expressed in the resolutions adopted at the intifada session.

These resolutions and the following clarifications, made by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, have encouraged most of the countries to recognise the Palestinian state and to voice their support to the PNC resolutions, Qasem said.

He pointed out that the new Palestinian position has had a great impact on the United States position. Such an impact was

of the Palestinians' will and resolve to restore their rights and

(Continued on page 2)

OIC expected to condemn Rushdie, insults to Islam

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia said Tuesday it expected Islamic countries to take a more moderate stand than the one called for by Iran.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal told a news conference the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), whose foreign ministers are meeting in Riyadh, would discuss an Iranian-sponsored draft resolution dealing with cultural attacks on Islam.

He said Rushdie's book, *The Satanic Verses*, had upset Muslim communities throughout the world, which see it as an insult to their religion.

"We are trying to handle it in a way that will serve the interests of these communities, prevent any slander against our religion and ask for the cooperation of other states to prevent any measures that will inflame emotions," Prince Saud said.

But Mohammad Ali Taskhri, deputy chief of Iran's Islamic Propagation Organisation and head of the Iranian delegation to the conference, told Reuters Islamic states supported a hard-line resolution attacking Western nations and effectively urging Rushdie to be killed.

But other delegates said most OIC members would resist the resolution as it stands, preferring a more general condemnation of Rushdie's work and insults to Islam.

"We are also interested in creating channels of understanding, believing that there exists

diversity of cultures and beliefs in the world, that true knowledge of each other's belief and respect for each other's belief is a cardinal cornerstone in relations between countries," Prince Saud said.

The issue was not mentioned at a Tuesday morning conference session. Afghan rebel leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar appealed to OIC members to recognise a rebel government formed after last month's Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Delegates said Hekmatyar reiterated earlier remarks that Afghan rebels controlled 95 per cent of Afghan territory and were close to toppling the Soviet-backed government.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sabhatzai Yaqub Khan, in a speech to the afternoon session of the conference, denounced the Rushdie novel. H urged the OIC to counter what he called "attempts to deride Muslims and their faith."

Prince Saud told the news conference he welcomed a peace initiative launched during a recent tour of the Middle East by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

OIC Secretary General Hamid Al Gabid of Niger told the same news conference the OIC political committee had already approved 12 resolutions on Palestine, Jerusalem, the occupied Syrian Golan Heights and Israeli settlements in occupied Arab land.

Bush hopes Shamir can make peace moves

WASHINGTON (R) — President Bush Tuesday urged Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to bring new ideas for peace with the Palestinians when he visits Washington next month.

Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, on the second day of his three-day visit to Washington, earlier gave no hint of a change in policies towards the Palestinians.

Arens met Bush and Secretary of State James Baker Monday and said the U.S. leaders did not ask him to make any changes in Israel's widely criticised effort to suppress a 15-month old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"To show our goodwill we propose the third week of April to start the talks again," Vayati said in an interview with the Iranian news agency (IRNA).

"I stress again that at this moment there is nothing more important than the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Iranian territory," he told the agency, monitored in Nicosia.

before a visit to Washington by Shamir expected in early April.

Bush, in a brief address Tuesday to the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League, said he reassured Arens of the U.S. commitment to Israel as a strategic ally.

Palestinian leaders Tuesday criticised the Bush administration approach to Middle East peace and said protests in the West Bank and Gaza Strip would not stop until Israeli occupation ended.

Hanna Siniora, editor of the Palestinian Arabic newspaper Al Fair, said U.S. proposals so far "are not what the Palestinian people are wanting to come from Washington."

Palestinians salute Israeli peace activists; call for more protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Leaders of the 15-month-old Palestinian uprising have praised Israeli peace activists and urged Arabs to step up clashes with Israeli troops, Palestinian sources said Tuesday.

In leaflets distributed overnight, the revolt's underground leadership accused the United States of bias toward Israel and ordered attacks against paramilitary border police who have replaced regular troops in some areas.

"We insist that the uprising continue and escalate... let (Defense Minister Yitzhak) Rabin know we will confront the border patrol with more violence and defeat them, their fate will be no better than that of the army," the leaflets said.

Rejection of U.S. pressure on the Palestine Liberation Organisation to end border raids into Israel from Lebanon, the uprising's leaders lambasted Washington as "the defender of Zionist terror."

"The U.S. administration is still trying to carry out political blackmail against the Palestinians by its one-sided media statements refusing to differentiate between terror and legitimate resistance," the leaflets said.

The communiqué singled out for praise Israel's "Peace Now" Movement which has held rallies against the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and urged the government to talk to the PLO.

Israel decided to replace troops with border police in some heavily-populated Arab areas amid efforts to project a more moderate image ahead of a visit to Washington by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The leaflets called for a general strike on March 21 to mark the first anniversary of the U.S. closure of PLO offices in Washington and told Palestinians to send protest telegrams to U.S. officials

here and in the United States. The leaflet named March 27 as a general strike day.

Troops in Jabalya, the Gaza Strip's largest Palestinian refugee camp, shot and wounded at least three residents in clashes there Tuesday and protesters fled into a U.N. school and clinic, witnesses said.

Police in Arab Jerusalem fired teargas to disperse Palestinian schoolgirls who stoned an Israeli bank and tried to barricade a street, a police spokesman said.

There was no immediate report of injuries or arrests.

A military court is to try two reserve officers accused of mis-

conduct in a shooting incident last year in the West Bank village of Faqu'ah, an army spokesman said.

Troops chasing suspects at an anti-Israel demonstration on May 1 shot dead 22-year-old Yusuf Abu Farhah. The platoon commander — a West Bank settler — and his deputy were relieved of duty the same day.

An army inquiry determined that soldiers opened fire from a distance of 200 metres, contravening standing orders because their lives were not in danger.

The spokesman said investigators had yet to establish if shots from the officers' guns killed Farhah but the two would stand trial early in April on charges of illegally using their weapons.

If convicted they face a maximum three-year jail term.

The Hebrew-language daily Maariv said the platoon was disbanded after soldiers testified



An Israeli patrol on alert in one of the deserted streets in the occupied Arab territories

Former Israeli commander praises intifada

NEW YORK (AP) — A former Israeli military commander attending the first U.S. meeting between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israelis has praised the Palestinian uprising and says the occupied lands should be returned.

The intifada (uprising) serves as an important means of educating the Israelis," said Matti Peled, a retired general who was in the military command that led Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza in 1967.

Nabil Shaath, the chairman of the Political Committee of the Palestine National Council (PNC), said the PLO was committed to Yasser Arafat's pledge to renounce terrorism — a U.S. condition for a dialogue with the group.

"Probably some of us felt that one had to fight terrorism with terrorism. That is, the hijacking of planes and so on," he said.

"Many Palestinian groups did go into them... There was a reassessment as to how much hijacking a plane would really bring about sympathy... we felt more and more that we had to take a strong position defying and stopping all acts that attack civilians."

Yair Tzaban, a member of the Knesset from the small Mapam Party that supports what he called the "Israeli peace camp," criticised the United States for moving too slowly on the Middle East peace process.

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Bombardments kill at least 33 people

Artillery duels rock Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Artillery duels thundered across Beirut's 'green line' Tuesday as Lebanon plunged into its bloodiest sectarian strife for two years.

A military spokesman in west Beirut said at least 33 civilians, including children on their way to school, were killed by the barrage.

In apparent retaliation, gunners on the western side opened up with artillery and tank fire. The Falangist-run Voice of Lebanon Radio said that "random shelling is pouring on Falangist-held residential areas."

Casualties reports were not immediately available from the Falangist side because heavy shelling kept ambulances and rescue teams from venturing out.

The fighting is the first major battle between the military and civilian governments which have competed for power since parliament failed to elect a new president last September.

Although civil war has been going on for almost 14 years, the larger conflict has for about two years taken second place to power struggles within various groups.

As the shelling spread Tuesday, Beirut shook to the thunder

of explosions. Smoke and fire were rising between houses in both sectors. Residents cowered in corridors and basements of buildings as shells rained around them.

Security sources said shells slammed into army positions in the suburb of Yarze where Major-General Michel Aoun, the army commander and head of a military government on the Falangist side, has his headquarters.

Shells also fell near the Soviet embassy in the western sector and into the grounds of the American University of Beirut Hospital, starting fires near a nurses' dormitory.

A doctor said at least 15 cars caught fire. Hospital workers rushed to the scene with fire extinguishers.

Six fruit peddlers were hit when a shell crashed near them in west Beirut.

"My six brothers are in the hospital. I know nothing about them. I just know that they were hit. I don't know if they will live or not," said Hassan Syala, a taxi driver, who was sobbing.

Lebanon committee meets March 16

Meanwhile an Arab League

spokesman said Tuesday, a team of Arab foreign ministers mediating in Lebanon's constitutional crisis will meet in Tunis on March 26 to prepare a report on their work so far.

The ministers, from Kuwait, Jordan, Sudan, Tunisia, Algeria and the United Arab Emirates, have had two rounds of talks with Lebanese leaders, in Tunis and then in Kuwait, and a third was expected to take place in Kuwait on March 17 and 18.

The chairman, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait, has postponed that meeting indefinitely and the committee is unlikely to meet more Lebanese leaders until after the Tunis meeting on March 26, the spokesman said.

The report will go to the Arab League Council, which is meeting at the League's Tunis headquarters for three days from March 27, he added.

The ministers have so far met Lebanon's military government leader Michel Aoun and acting Premier Selim Hoss, the Shi'ite Muslim speaker of parliament and the spiritual leaders of most of the country's religious sects.

The next meeting was expected to be with the politicians and militia leaders.

Helicopters arrive in embattled Afghan city

PESHAWAR (R) — About two dozen government helicopters flew into Jalalabad Tuesday as Western-backed rebels said they had made gains in their assault on the eastern Afghan city.

The transport helicopters arrived early in the day amid renewed heavy fighting around the city, guerrilla flocks in neighbouring Pakistan said.

They said the guerrillas had shot down one of the helicopters with a U.S.-supplied Stinger missile. Independent confirmation of the report was not available.

Two of the seven rebel parties based in Pakistan reported that an ammunition dump hit by guerrilla shelling in central Jalalabad had exploded Monday night.

The Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah said two days ago that it had repelled the guerrilla offensive launched a week earlier to capture Jalalabad as a possible base for a rebel government.

But the guerrilla sources, speaking in the north eastern Pakistani city of Peshawar, said the rebels had overrun more government posts Monday afternoon.

Fire guts Egypt's television building

CAIRO (R) — Fire gutted the top two storeys of Egypt's state-run television headquarters Tuesday and at least four people were taken to hospital with slight injuries, officials said.

A television security guard was trapped on the roof for two hours but later reached the street, where thousands watched the drama behind riot police cordons.

He emerged shocked, his face blackened, but was apparently uninjured.

Firemen directed hoses from extension cranes but water jets fell short of flames licking from the 27th and 28th floors of one of Cairo's tallest buildings, topped by a giant reception and transmission antenna.

The television was not broadcasting when the fire started around 6:30 a.m. (0430 GMT). Radio Cairo, which transmits from the same building, went off the air for 20 minutes and then resumed programmes.

There was no immediate word on the cause of the fire which broke out before hundreds of civil servants and broadcasters arrived for work.

But later as investigators sifted through the charred remains, the government said the fire was started by a fault in wiring away from the main radio and television cables.

Interior Minister Zaki Badr told reporters: "I completely and flatly rule our arson or sabotage."

It gutted floors containing housing reception rooms, radio monitoring equipment and archives, officials said.

The floors are also believed to house information ministry offices.

'Uprising isolated Israel'

(Continued from page 1)

reflected in the USA's acceptance to initiate dialogue with the PLO, "a dialogue which we hope will continue and will move from the format to the content," he said.

"The realistic and constructive position of the Palestinian leadership, signals the clear Arab position vis-a-vis the comprehensive peaceful settlement," Qasem noted.

He added that all obstacles have now been removed from the road to the international peace conference, except the Israeli obstacle, removal of which hinges on the new American administration. Qasem hoped that the U.S. will assume its role in the peace process to solve the Middle East problem.

However, Qasem said, such a peaceful solution cannot be achieved except through an international peace conference under the supervision of the United Nations, to be attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and the parties involved in the conflict, including the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and along the principles of the U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Qasem stressed that the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) and the Union of Maghreb States, which have recently been formed, are tributaries to the joint Arab and Islamic efforts.

These two new alliances, together with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) constitute new pillars of the Arab and Islamic might.

Qasem pointed out to the formation of the two new councils as the most remarkable achievements made recently in the Arab world.

He also referred to other achievements made during the past year, including the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, Iran's acceptance of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 598, and the subsequent ceasefire which followed almost nine years of frenzied fighting.

Qasem pointed out to the efforts made by the six-member Arab ministerial committee to solve the Lebanese crisis, and voiced hope that such a solution will be achieved.

Qasem denounced the apartheid policy in South Africa, and called on the OIC to support the peoples of South Africa and Namibia, to help them achieve independence and sovereignty.

Concluding his speech Qasem called on the OIC to undertake a comprehensive review of the organisation's work, with a view to developing its performance and efficiency and to avoid duplication of work that obstructs its activities.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

London suspends Beirut visa service

LONDON (R) — Britain said Monday it would close its visa office in west Beirut for an indefinite period for security reasons. A Foreign Office spokesman said the operation, which employs only locally-engaged staff, would be suspended from Tuesday "until further notice." Visa and consular services in east Beirut will remain open, he added. The move follows Britain's March 8 warning to its nationals to leave or avoid Lebanon after Iraq cut diplomatic ties with Britain for refusing to condemn novelist Salman Rushdie. Rushdie's book "The Satanic Verses" has outraged Muslims worldwide and Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini called for his death for blasphemy against Islam. Groups holding Western hostages in Beirut have vowed vengeance against the Indian-born British author and his supporters.

Israelis unveil another weapon

TEL AVIV (R) — A sniper's eyewall of his prey can now be shared with senior officers thanks to a revolutionary gunsight which transmits a video image of the target, Israeli newspapers reported Tuesday. The sniper-C3 (command, control and communication) system, enabling army commanders and police chiefs to coordinate five or more sharpshooters, was developed by the Elbit Defence Electronics Company for the Israeli army. The U.S. Marine Corps is currently testing the system, which costs more than \$100,000 per unit. Elbit President Emmanuel Gil told Israeli defence reporters. The company said the televised gunsight monitoring system could revolutionise the fight by enabling commanders to plan a more effective assault. It could eliminate situations where more than one sniper fires at the same target. The system can also be used on the battlefield to coordinate tank gunners and soldiers operating anti-tank missiles.

Moroccan kills relative in Paris

SURESNES, France (AP) — A young man opened fire on two relatives at a school in this Paris suburb Monday, killing his half-sister and seriously wounding his half-brother before killing himself, officials said. Samir Douline shot Abil Jbali and Jbali's sister Ilham Jbali, both in their 20s, before turning his pistol on himself, police reported. Abil and Ilham Jbali were rushed from the school, Paul Langevin Lycee, to two Paris hospitals. And hospital officials said the young woman died hours later. All three are of Moroccan origin. Assistant Prosecutor Michele Requin said that because the gunman was dead, there would be no criminal investigation opened that might explain his motives. The French news agency Agence France-Presse (AFP) quoted unidentified police sources as saying the argument was "a family quarrel, possibly of a religious character."

Soviet reporters visit Saudi Arabia

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabia has for the first time allowed two Soviet political journalists to enter the anti-communist kingdom. Cairo-based Vladimir Beliakov, from the Pravda daily, and Bogatyrev Alexei, representing the TASS news agency, are in Riyadh to cover the three-day Islamic Conference Organisation's (ICO) foreign ministers' meeting. The Saudi decision to issue visas to the journalists is a further sign of improving links between Riyadh and Moscow which do not have diplomatic ties. Moscow has gradually expanded its ties with conservative Gulf states, setting up embassies in Abu Dhabi, Qatar and Oman since 1985. Kuwait has had diplomatic relations with Moscow since the 1960s but Bahrain and Saudi Arabia have yet to follow suit.

Singapore bans Rushdie book

SINGAPORE (R) — Multi-racial Singapore has banned British author Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses," saying it "denigrates a major religion and its prophet." A government statement Tuesday said Singapore "cannot allow the import and circulation of a book which is considered blasphemous by and offensive to the Muslim community." About 15 per cent of Singapore's 2.6 million population are Muslim Malays, 76 per cent are of Chinese descent and nine per cent are ethnic Indians and others.

Iranian women hit Turkey veil ban

NICOSIA (AP) — Women students marched through Tehran Monday to protest a ban on Islamic dress for students at universities in neighbouring Turkey, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported. The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the students delivered a resolution to the Majlis, the Iranian parliament, calling for Iranian diplomats in Turkey to press for the ban to be lifted. They warned that "in case the ruling is not repealed any visit by ranking Turkish officials to Tehran will face protest demonstrations," the university students warned. The constitutional court in Turkey, a secular Muslim state, last week revoked a parliamentary decision in December permitting Islamic veil for women at universities. The ruling provoked demonstrations by Muslim fundamentalists in Ankara, Istanbul and other Turkish cities in which dozens of protesters were detained by police. The women protesters said their Islamic beliefs require them to cover their heads in mixed company and that the ban is a restriction on democratic freedoms.

2,000-year-old town found in Iran

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iranian archaeologists have unearthed a sprawling 2,000-year-old town at Shustar in southwestern Khuzestan province, Tehran Television has reported. The state-run television, monitored in Nicosia, said Monday the excavators found four underground crypts built of mud-brick containing clay coffins with elaborate relief designs that were placed on wooden biers. The television, monitored in Nicosia, showed film of adult skeletons buried along with simple jewellery and household goods including clay water-jugs and cups. Coins found at the site were struck during the Parthian Dynasty, which ruled in present-day Iran from 250 B.C. to 226 A.D.

The British Council **BRITISH HIGHER EDUCATION WEEK**

17 - 24 March 1989

ITINERARY

Sat	JORDAN UNIVERSITY
18	
Sun	YARMOUK UNIVERSITY
19	
Mon	JORDAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
20	
Tues	MU'TAH UNIVERSITY
21	
Thurs	BRITISH COUNCIL
23	Open Day (2 - 7 p.m.)

For further information, please contact the Public Relations Office or the Deanship of Student Affairs at each University.

Representatives from the following institutions will be available to answer questions:

- University of Aberdeen
- Bolton Institute of Higher Education
- University of Glasgow
- University of Kent
- University of Nottingham
- Trent Polytechnic

* EXHIBITION of higher education materials and how to study in Britain

* INFORMATION on pre-university courses, undergraduate & postgraduate degrees

* COUNSELLING for those interested in studying in Britain

For more information please contact: Tel: 636147/8, 624686, 638194

ALL ARE WELCOME

DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swaffield, Tel. 810740
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 674740
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrassa Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 71331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 75261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Mohammad Khalil 696294

Dr. Hisham Kanaan 790286

Dr. Ibrahim Abe Hamid 677436

Dr. Yahya Abdil Rahim 730740

Firdous pharmacy 661912

Ferdous pharmacy 778336

Al Asmaa pharmacy 670555

Narrouf pharmacy 623672

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644943

Sunisissi pharmacy 677660

Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101

Abdil Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-532000

RJ Air Int'l. Airport 06-520000

Hospitality 985417

Khalifeh pharmacy 661917

Al-Sabea' pharmacy 661909

National News

Tarawneh in Syria to discuss supply affairs

DAMASCUS (Petra, J.T.) — Minister of Supply Fayed Tarawneh arrived in Damascus Tuesday on a three-day visit to Syria to discuss Jordanian-Syrian cooperation in supply affairs.

Tarawneh stated before his departure that his talks with the Syrian officials, including Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zou'bi, will focus on the exchange of foodstuffs between the two countries on the basis of barter trade. Jordan's cooperation with Syria in implementation of resolutions passed by the Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee held in Amman last month and greater scopes of cooperation will also be discussed during the visit, Tarawneh said.

Tarawneh is accompanied by Ministry of Agriculture's Secretary General Salem Al Lawzi and the director of the ministry's warehouses department Ahmad Hindawi.

Before his departure for Syria, Tarawneh chaired a meeting of the Supply Council to review the supply law and the council's duties with regard to the country's supply policies. At the meeting held Monday evening the minister outlined the Ministry of Supply's efforts to provide sufficient foodstuffs to meet the needs of the country and briefed the council members on the government's directives on matters related to food supplies which, he



Fayed Tarawneh

should be made available in quantities that would suffice the country for several months.

Tarawneh also reviewed the Ministry of Supply's efforts which are coordinated with the ministries of agriculture and industry and trade with regard to local production, and endeavours to provide sufficient foodstuffs during the month of Ramadan.

He said that the council will be holding its meetings on a monthly basis to review the country's supply policies.

The council groups representatives of the Ministries of Supply, Industry and Trade, Health, Customs as well as the Armed Forces and representatives of the private sector.

ICO meets Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — The Islamic Cities Organisation (ICO) will open its fifth general meeting here Saturday with the participation of delegates from various member states.

The three day meeting will review the organisation's activities over the past two years and will endorse its budget for the coming two years, according to an announcement here Monday.

It said that the participants will endorse amendments to the organisation's statutes which will open the way for eight instead of four cities from each member states to join the organisation's membership. The delegates will also decide on the next general conference's date and venue, the announcement said.

Modernising universities

IRBD (Petra, J.T.) — A three day symposium on modernising university administration is due to open at Yarmouk University Saturday with the participation of representatives of Arab universities in Jordan and four Arab countries.

The symposium, organised in cooperation with the Amman-based Association of Arab Universities will review 20 working papers submitted by Jordan and the other delegations dealing with the planning, organising and financing procedures at Arab universities, according to Dr. Zuhair Sabbagh, chairman of committee preparing for the symposium. Sabbagh said that the delegates will identify administrative problems and discuss academic issues encountered by their institutions and their impact on current social, cultural, political and economic developments.

The symposium will try to lay down principles for modernisation at universities to help them carry on with their duties and provide better services to the students. Sabbagh added. He said that management modernisation has become essential at all educational institutions that are trying to attain better higher standards.

Iraq, Jordan discuss cooperatives

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Iraqi Cooperatives Federation arrived here Tuesday on a several day visit to Jordan and talks with officials on prospects for bilateral cooperation in cooperatives.

The delegation will hold meetings with the Jordan Cooperatives Organisation (JCO) director and his aides to discuss cooperatives-related issues and activities as well as subjects that would be taken up by a general meeting of cooperatives in the Arab World which will open in Cairo in the first week of April. The delegation members are also due to tour a number of cooperatives in the Kingdom to examine their activities and programmes.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Egyptian artist 'Adli Rizqullah at Al Wasiti Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by seven Jordanian artists at the Art Gallery of Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 3 - 6 p.m.
- ★ An art exhibition by Rihab Ghassib entitled "Jordan in Spring" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "The Tübinger Atlas of the Middle East" at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "British Books on the Islamic World" at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An art exhibition by Ahmad Ismael displaying paintings on Maqamat Al Hariri and Jordanian landscapes at the Gallery, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental — 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition of posters on the French Revolution at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ The Polish contemporary art exhibition at the Yarmouk University.

THEATRE

- ★ An Arabic play on the Palestinian uprising entitled "Al Bilad Talbat Ahlina" at the Palace of Culture — 7:30 p.m.
- ★ Arabic children plays organised by Noor Al Hussein Foundation Centre at Aqaba (for more information call 606992).

FILMS

- ★ A French film entitled "Si Versailles M'était Conté" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

SYRIAN MINISTER: The visiting Syrian Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Kamal Sharaf Tuesday visited the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre where he was briefed on the centre's duties and tasks by its Director General Uglah Al Duheimat. Sharaf and the accompanying delegation toured the various sections of the centre and watched closely how the various kinds of maps are prepared. They were also briefed on the remote sensing technologies. The minister, accompanied by his Jordanian counterpart Nasseruddin Al Assad also visited the Martyr's Monument in Amman and toured its various sections. They were briefed on the monument and the military museum contained therein, by the Armed Forces Moral Guidance Department director (Petra).

ZAKAT: Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Saturday opened the second charitable bazaar, held by the Women Committee for Zakat, in cooperation with the University of Jordan's Islamic Cultural Centre (J.T.).

MARKETING: Agriculture Minister Yousef Hamdan Al Jabri Tuesday visited the Agricultural Marketing Corporation where he was briefed by its Director General Fahd Aazir on its duties and the steps it has taken to put an end to the marketing problems. Al Jabri called for a clear marketing policy and noted the role of the AMC in avoiding marketing problems and suffocations (Petra).

HEALTH: Health Minister Zuhair Malhas will take part in the five day meeting of the Council of Arab Health ministers and its executive bureau meeting, which will start in the Libyan capital Tripoli Saturday (Petra).

LETTER: Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan Tuesday received a letter of thanks from secretary general of the Association of Arab Universities Mohammad Faraj Al Dugheib, who voiced the AAU's appreciation for the Jordanian universities for hosting the association's general secretariat and for their continued support for the AAU's general secretariat.

TRADE: The General Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Tuesday held a meeting under the chairmanship of Mohammad Asfour, during which the federation's executive board discussed the commercial sector's preparations to cope with the economic adjustment phase. They also discussed means of reviving the private sector's role and prospects for concluding agreements with other countries, in a bid to enhance economic cooperation and to increase the volume of trade and Jordanian exports. The board also reviewed the steps so far taken to set up the Jordanian-Omani fish marketing company (Petra).

should be made available in quantities that would suffice the country for several months.

Tarawneh also reviewed the Ministry of Supply's efforts which are coordinated with the ministries of agriculture and industry and trade with regard to local production, and endeavours to provide sufficient foodstuffs during the month of Ramadan.

He said that the council will be holding its meetings on a monthly basis to review the country's supply policies.

The council groups representatives of the Ministries of Supply, Industry and Trade, Health, Customs as well as the Armed Forces and representatives of the private sector.

More hashish seized

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) Tuesday announced the seizure of 64 kilogrammes of hashish which were found in a hiding place in a desert area east of Mafrqa. A PSD statement said that the drugs were discovered by accident by a citizen who reported the matter to the PSD.

On March 8, the PSD announced that it had smashed a drug trafficking ring, the biggest so far in the country. PSD Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali said that two and a half tonnes of hashish and 300,000 carton boxes with a total street value of JD 2 million, were seized in the past two months.

Majali said that eight Jordanians, 12 Saudis and 25 Syrians were involved in the drug trafficking operations.

Madaba gets comprehensive school

MADABA (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has awarded a tender to a local construction company for the construction of three comprehensive schools in Madaba at the cost of JD 1.5 million, according to the director of education department here Deep Al Majali.

Dr. Touqan presented awards to the 30 mothers, selected from various public sectors in Jordan and commended for their work and their services to the Jordanian society.

The ceremony was held in the course of Jordan's celebration of the International Women's Day, an annual event observed in Jordan with cultural activities and lectures.

Dr. Touqan delivered an address on the occasion, conveying to the 30 women greetings and congratulations from Her Majesty Queen Noor.

AMMAN (Petra) — A group of 30 Jordanian foster mothers were honoured here Tuesday at a ceremony held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor and attended by Minister of Social Development Fawaz Touqan and senior officials.

Dr. Touqan presented awards to the 30 mothers, selected from various public sectors in Jordan and commended for their work and their services to the Jordanian society.

Honouring of foster mothers, the minister said, is an honouring for Jordanian families of which the women constitute the backbone, providing valuable service for the local society and the country as a whole.

The minister reviewed



Minister of Social Development Fawaz Touqan Tuesday honours one of 30 women for their services to the country (Petra photo)

Foster mothers honoured

AMMAN (Petra) — A group of 30 Jordanian foster mothers were honoured here Tuesday at a ceremony held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor and attended by Minister of Social Development Fawaz Touqan and senior officials.

Women's contributions to the national economy over the years and referred to women's share in socio-economic activities in Arab societies. He praised the efforts of foster mothers who, he described, as serving as a symbol of an inexhaustible source of constant giving. The minister paid tribute to the Arab women in the Israeli-occupied Arab lands who, he said, have been instrumental in achieving great success. Touqan also conveyed Queen Noor's greetings to the Palestinian women.

Among the other speakers at the ceremony was Mrs. Haifa Al Bashir, president of the General Union of Jordanian Women.

The ceremony was attended by Ministry of Social Development officials, wives of cabinet members and other invited guests.

The minister reviewed

Medical conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day meeting by the Arab American Medical Society will open here Thursday under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

The conference which was organised by the National Medical Institution, the University of Jordan and the Medical Society of Arab Americans will review a number of medical papers dealing with various branches of medicine ranging from cardiac surgery to breast cancer and children diseases.

Taking part in the meeting are Jordanian physicians and specialists employed in Jordanian medical centres and hospitals and members of the Arab American Society. The society members attending the conference will be taken on a tour of archaeological and tourist sites in the Kingdom.

Eric Echenne plays "to live free or to die" drawn from Jules Michelet's History of French Revolution

In company with Eric Echenne, the French

revolution lives again with humour.

"Vive libre ou mourir" ("to live free or to die") will be presented at the Royal Cultural Centre Sunday, March 19 at 8 p.m.

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Remove the fog

INITIAL reports about Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens' explanatory talks with President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker speak of disagreement between the two sides on how to prepare the groundwork for a durable and just settlement of the Palestinian question. Whether this apparent discord between Washington and Tel Aviv would lead ultimately to a collision course between them is still too early to tell. In the course of the next few weeks, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is expected to make a call on the White House in a bid to convince the American side of his stance and perspective on the overall Arab-Israeli conflict including the Palestinian case.

What seems to separate the American and Israeli sides now centres on the American call on Israel to come up with creative new ideas — distinguished from the sterile old ideas that Shamir and his clique have been offering thus far — on how to defuse the situation between Israel and the Palestinians in preparation for eventual settlement. The Palestinian side is rightly rejecting any reciprocal initiative from their side touching on the intifada before there is an agreement on a Middle East plan to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflicts, for fear that ending the Palestinian intifada prematurely would be tantamount to putting the cart before the horse. As Nabil Shaath, chairman of the Political Committee of the Palestine National Council, has said at a symposium of Palestinians and Israeli peace activists in New York Monday: "Let's put the horse where it should be and the cart where it should be. And the horse is the peace agreement." Surely Washington knows only too well that the uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is the trump card in the hands of the Palestinian side and to relinquish it precipitately is a national suicide.

Meanwhile the resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflicts is destined once again to await the impending talks between President George Bush and the leaders of the Middle Eastern countries most directly involved. President Bush cannot expect to hear anything new from the Arab leaders for they have said their peace a long time ago. And it seems he will not hear anything new from the Israeli Prime Minister when he visits the U.S. in April. What is called for therefore, is something new and encouraging from Washington to break the logjam and untie the knot in the Middle East. By speaking more clearly and forcefully on the conceptual framework of a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflicts, the White House can remove the fog that clouds the way of any such solution. If that entails a showdown with Israel, so be it. Americans would be doing Israel and the Israelis a great favour by standing firm on the side of a permanent and just resolution in the Middle East. As the meeting with Moshe Arens in Washington did not produce tangible results, one would hope that the forthcoming meeting with Yitzhak Shamir will be conducted in a more forceful manner to assure a more positive outcome.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily newspaper said Tuesday that there has been a real change in the position of Britain and the countries of the European Community towards the Middle East issue and the Arab-Israeli conflict. The paper which quoted His Majesty King Hussein's statement that followed his talks with the British prime minister said that the King seemed to be optimistic about future steps for a solution and was full of hope that the Europeans would contribute towards a settlement. The favourable change in the European countries' position with regard to the Middle East issue is indeed a source of satisfaction for all Arabs who at the different summit meetings expressed their willingness to reach a peaceful settlement, the paper said. It said there is no doubt that the change in the European countries' position came about after the PLO had recognised U.N. Security Council resolutions and displayed a genuine desire to achieve peace. But there is no doubt also that the Palestinian uprising had been instrumental in prompting the Europeans to take this new and favourable stand and opened the eyes of the world to the facts in the occupied Arab territories, the paper added.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily comments on Washington's failure so far to take a definite stand with regard to the Middle East question and says that what has been going on is no more than a postman's mission between Israel and the PLO. Tareq Masarweh says Washington is awaiting visits to the United States by the leaders of Jordan, Egypt and Israel before formulating a definite position with regard to a proper solution for the problem. But it seems that the Bush administration is trying to remain as close as possible to the position taken by the Reagan administration which means remaining biased towards the Israeli position, the writer says. It is hoped that the Bush administration will consider the idea of an international conference since everything else has failed in ending the Middle East conflict, the writer notes. He says that the Palestinian uprising could be a catalyst in formulating Washington's final stand.

Al Dustour daily commented on a meeting in London between King Hussein and the British prime minister. The paper said the meeting was part of the Kingdom's endeavours in the European arena to give further momentum to the peace process and is important since it follows open policy statements by British ministers in favour of the Palestinian cause. The paper said that Britain's open and direct support for the Palestinian people's rights has clearly contributed to the formation of a clearer and more favourable policy within the European Community vis-a-vis the Middle East question. It said that Britain's position in this case is paramount importance in view of London's influence on the United States.

Scarcity no barrier to development

By Riad Al Khouri

ECONOMISTS talk about three "factors of production" or the things needed to produce goods and services for consumption and investment. At the simplest level these are land, labour and capital. In various combinations, the three are put together to convert potential wealth into actual production, first to satisfy people's basic needs and then to go beyond them to produce semi-luxuries and luxuries. States so basically, the economic problem becomes simple, particularly in our region.

The Middle East is full of talented people, natural resources and financial capital. Combine these factors of production and all sorts of things can be produced to make material conditions better and raise standards of living. Unfortunately, matters aren't quite so simple. Looming behind land, labour and capital is a fourth factor of production which academics have been struggling with for a while now. Some call it organisation, others technology, yet others both. It's been compared to glue which binds together the other factors and makes sure they work in harmony. This concept has interesting applications in our region. Take the case of Iraq, a place packed with natural resources, a good-sized population and, until recently, a lot of capital in the form of foreign exchange. In the words of Darrel R. Eglin of Washington D.C.'s American

"Early in recorded time the people of Iraq found the will and the means to build a prosperous economy. Mesopotamia (the land between the two rivers), despite its harsh environment, was turned into a granary for the region by a combination of organisational and technological ingenuity." The people of ancient Iraq practically invented large-scale agriculture. They developed and maintained a big and efficient irrigation network that contributed to the productivity of the fields that formed the economic base for much of the civilised world.

After 100 days Bhutto approaches showdown with Zia protege

By Oliver Wates
Reuter

ISLAMABAD — After 100 days as prime minister of Pakistan, Benazir Bhutto is fast approaching a showdown with her political foes.

Her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is widely expected to try this week to unseat the chief minister of Punjab, Nawaz Sharif, main surviving protege of the late military President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq.

The Punjab provincial assembly has been recalled and PPP leaders expect a no-confidence motion to succeed, with support from dissidents in Sharif's Islamic Democratic Alliance.

The alliance countered by recalling the national assembly in Islamabad and threatens a no-confidence motion against Bhutto, the first woman prime minister of a Muslim nation.

The battle for Punjab, the dominant province with 55 per cent of the population, has soured the atmosphere after last year's widely-hailed transition from military to civilian rule.

The struggle threatens to spoil the broadly successful image of Bhutto's first three months in power.

Political analysts and diplomats give the 35-year-old prime minister high marks, though a lower rating to the rest of her cabinet.

Newspaper commentators and foreign diplomats say the ferocity of the struggle is distracting ministers from tackling Pakistan's economic plight and could even threaten democracy.

"Rather than consolidating its position at the centre and setting its priorities for the country's future, the PPP may be embarked on a course whose consequence it may not eventually be able to control," commentator Mustafa Hussain wrote on Sunday. "The roots of democracy are not so strong."

Many in the establishment viewed the PPP with fear and suspicion, remembering the lack of tolerance of political opposition of the PPP government led by Bhutto's father Zulfikar in the 1970s, he said.

Sharif, 38, a millionaire businessman, was a key aide of Zia for much of the general's 11 years in power. After Zia's death in an unexplained plane crash last August, he played an important role in putting together the anti-PPP alliance.

November's elections gave no clear result. The PPP became easily the largest party at federal level and governs with the support of independents in the national assembly.

In elections for the four provincial assemblies three days later the alliance reversed the result in Punjab, giving Sharif his power-base and the powerful job of chief minister.

But tensions grew in the alliance. Its main faction, the Muslim League, resented the prominent role of the Islamic fundamentalist Jamaat-I-Islami, which had been close to Zia.

Bhutto loathed Zia, who overthrew her father and presided over his execution. Taking oath as prime minister on December 2,

But as a result of war and other forms of upheaval, the social organisation weakened and changed, allowing the irrigation system to deteriorate. Productivity declined, and the area went through a long period of great poverty. Formation of the modern state of Iraq after World War I began, in Eglin's words, "a search for a technology that would return prosperity to the inhabitants of Mesopotamia." But this task has proven formidable because of the need for endless modification of existing customs and institutions, and many and abrupt shifts of policy. Still, a lot of progress was made and Iraqis today are far better off than they were, say twenty five years ago. But the country's economic achievements have not been sufficient to provide a good standard of living for the whole population as well as the basis for self-sustaining growth in the future. Many in Iraq and elsewhere agree that the high productivity of the soil of ancient times could be regained, with agriculture again becoming a major contributor to the economy. Eglin concludes: "An expanded farm output plus development of the country's several natural resources could provide a basis for substantial increases in industry." Most observers believe that Iraq has the ingredients to become rich again when the right combination of organisation and technology is found.

What does all this prove? First of all, lots of money or wealth are not enough for steady, balanced growth. Sometimes the opposite happens: Places with an abundance of resources turn themselves into an economic mess. This has been the case of Argentina for some time now, and it could easily end up happening to the oil-rich states of our region. Conversely, poverty may be a basis for growth and development. Singapore and Switzerland come to mind — both countries are poor in natural resources, yet they have turned the little they have into something economically quite

impressive. This was done as a result of the application of the right kinds of organisation and technology. How did they do it? A good question to which there is not really a satisfactory answer. But a number of points can be made in this respect.

First, time is not really the issue: Switzerland took centuries to get where it is today, while Singapore's economic success occurred over a few decades. Second, the experiences of these and other successful economic systems make each one of them unique. Learning lessons from them is fine, but copying the Swiss or others and trying to apply their model to another economy will never work. Jordanians, for example, talk about Singapore as a model. This is a strange kind of parallel, probably due to the need to fill an intellectual gap with an idea, any idea no matter how wrong-headed it might be. Studying the example of Singapore might be useful to Jordan, but more to the point would be a closer look at places like Cyprus or Tunisia. These economies have had a few successes and still have to cope with many problems. They are a lot less glamorous than Switzerland or Singapore, but they are also closer to home.

The second point to come out of a close look at Iraq is the importance of studying and understanding history. Henry Ford said history is bunk, and this may do for North America, but history in the Middle East is omnipresent and all-pervasive. Understanding what Iraq and other places in the region were years ago may have the important benefit of allowing us to better cope with today's economic and other problems. Unfortunately, history in the region today is often used as an excuse for fomenting violence and exacerbating instability and unrest. But history is only a tool: Distorted and in the wrong hands in can do a lot of harm; put it to a different use and it just might help us in the continuing search for a safer and more prosperous life.

A novel road to politics

By Hans-Heino Kopietz

LONDON — It's an inescapable historical experience that when artists use religious or ideological themes, whatever the nature or position of the society, artistic expression often becomes a political matter.

In the West these days such disputes usually are thrashed out in court, and attendant demonstrations tend not to be violent. Even so there was considerable public furor in the early 1970s over *The Life of Brian*, an irreverent film on Christ, and recently over the Martin Scorsese production of *The Last Temptation of Christ*, in which Christ has "unacceptable hallucinations" — unacceptable, that is, for the fundamentalists. Far more often, however, violence, such as the burning down of cinemas, accompanies ideological statements through the medium of art.

In Spain, for instance, Pablo Picasso's mural of *Guernica* was attacked by followers of Generalissimo Franco and to this day remains under heavy guard and bullet-proof glass. Throughout the western world, but perhaps especially in strictly anti-Communist countries, political violence against artistic expressions is not uncommon, but generally remains a local issue, and does not impinge on interstate relations.

Salman Rushdie, author of *The Satanic Verses*, however, has not only unleashed an international crisis which has had some unexpected consequences, and which has raised some interesting questions and problems, but has also exposed the problems the Iranian establishment faces.

First of all, the speed with which the Common Market foreign ministers reacted was little short of a political miracle. Other non-EEC European states reacted hastily, notably neutral Sweden which recalled its new ambassador of two weeks to Stockholm.

Even highly cautious Japan expressed disapproval of the Iranian action, and according to

some reports, has reduced its imports from Iran by 30 per cent. Equally spectacular is the role of the Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, who after his meeting with Ayatollah Khomeini offered to mediate between Iran and the West. This alone must go down as one of the greatest political ironies of the 1980s.

While it is fair to assume that most western states regret the whole affair, especially those like West Germany which throughout the turbulent past eight years retained normal diplomatic ties with Iran, some others can sit back and say with a sense of déjà vu, "I told you so." The United States has not had diplomatic ties with Iran since 1979, and now it is not likely that relations will be resumed until well after the present crisis is resolved.

Iraq, probably more than any other state in the region, has received an unexpected boost. For years President Saddam Hussein has argued that his war with Iran was fought partly in order to contain the fundamentalist revolution which for some time threatened to engulf the whole region.

Even Saudi Arabia, which reluctantly broke diplomatic relations with Iran last year over the conduct of Iranian pilgrims during the Hajj to Mecca, has had through this affair further justification for the decision. Had the upheaval over the Rushdie novel occurred during the war, it is reasonable to argue that the whole course of the conflict might have been radically different.

Viewed against the Indian and Pakistani reaction, particularly by opponents of the two governments (which some observers tend to see more in the realm of domestic rather than international politics), the response from elsewhere has been almost half-hearted.

Although the Sheikh of Al Azhar University in Cairo condemned the book, he did not exhort the masses to act. He as well as other imams simply expressed

their strong disapproval and the book was banned by all states.

What then is the core of the issue? At the root of the current problem may lie concerns over the future of the Iranian theocracy. The principal stakes are firstly the inviolability of dogma and its application as interpreted by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and, secondly, the assertion of leadership over the Islamic 'Ummah by the Iranian religious leader and thirdly the seeking of support from Islamic states in the face of increasing isolation.

The first issue is undoubtedly the most critical one. Most observers see in the Rushdie matter a power struggle between the pragmatists (e.g. the speaker of the Iranian parliament Hashemi Rafsanjani) and the conservative/revolutionary elements. This, however, overlooks the fact that the ayatollah himself had sanctioned many of Rafsanjani's policies, including receiving arms from the United States, and recently had not objected to extending ties with many states, including the Soviet Union.

Finally, in his own way, Ayatollah Khomeini is pointing to an alternative way by which he hopes Iran can break out of its isolation, namely by drawing support from the Islamic states. This may yet prove to be a miscalculation. But Shevardnadze's visit will have encouraged him to play the game so well developed initially by the late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser: playing East and West against the middle.

Inadvertently, Salman Rushdie may have changed the course of Iran's history, through the medium of the novel — *Academic File*.

Hans-Heino Kopietz is a Senior Analyst with the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), London.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Customs may not be as wise as laws, but they are always more popular — Benjamin Disraeli, English statesman (1804-1881).

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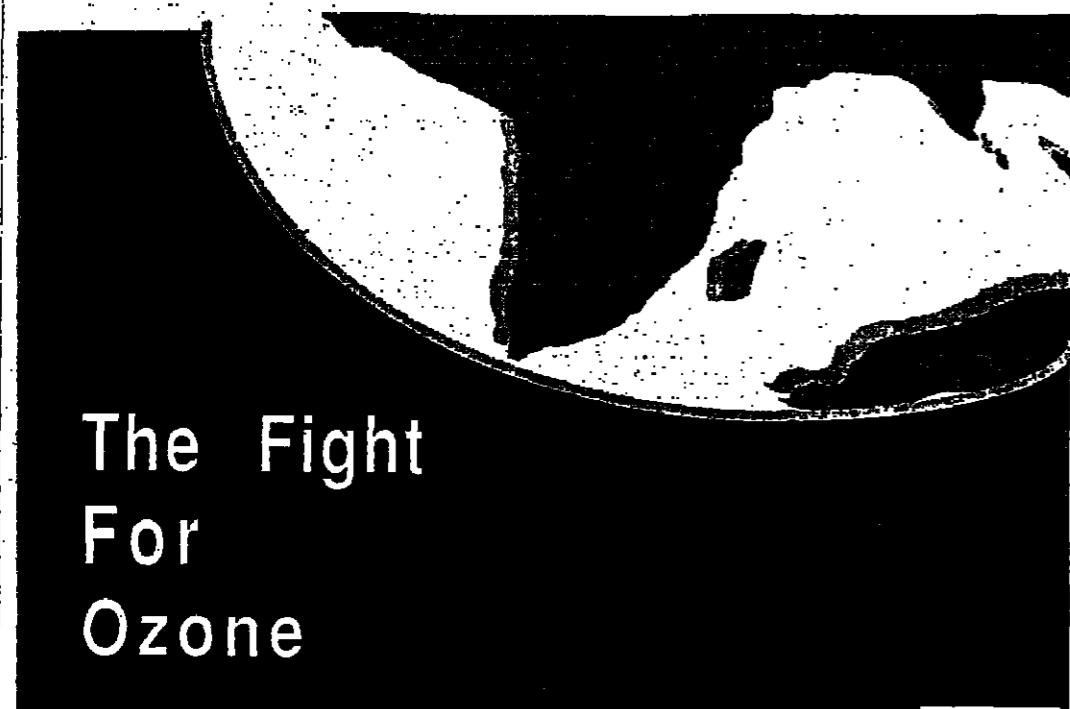
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The Fight For Ozone

Marking time in the fight for ozone

Global concern over the depletion of ozone has led to a series of major international conferences. How soon can concrete action be expected?

By Miriam Bianco

LONDON — Protecting our planet is the key to our future and politicians all over the Western world are taking environmental issues increasingly seriously. This is indicated by two major international conferences taking place in Europe within a week in March, the Saving the Ozone Layer conference in London and the pollution talks in the Hague, Netherlands.

Both events were designed to attract participants from the North as well as South — from the developed and developing world — a truly global effort. This was in acknowledgement of the fact that the earth's environment will form the basis of much of the business of international relations for the next generations. Like arms control, it is a complex and urgent task facing mankind, which will be difficult to negotiate on an international scale. In the words of Britain's Overseas Development Minister, Chris Patten: "The two issues are alike in that both concern the survival of the human race on this planet."

The concept of interdependence so widely used in the discussion of development politics has become crucial in more than political and economic terms now. For there is only one earth and what happens in one distant land is now clearly seen to affect the ecological and environmental systems of other countries.

It is in this vein that attention has recently shifted to the destruction of the forests in Amazonia, Brazil. For sustainable development means "development without destruction" and incorporates a diverse range of problems, from the polluting of the oceans to the "greenhouse effect" and the destruction of the ozone layer.

The London conference brought together participants from about 110 countries and focused on efforts to encourage all governments to commit themselves to further urgent reductions of the emissions of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and to show how such reductions can be achieved in practical ways.

Developing countries are prime targets in this effort, particularly China, India and South Korea. The conference was designed, in the words of Lord Caithness, British secretary of state for the environment, to "get countries to sign up to the Montreal Protocol."

The Protocol is an addition to the Vienna Convention initially agreed by 25 countries and the European Community in 1987 and which came into force Jan. 1,

1989. The Protocol makes provision for the control of both CFCs and compound gases called halons, all of which delete the ozone layer in the earth's atmosphere.

Negotiated under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) the Protocol was a U-turn in environmental politics as the signatories represented two-thirds of the global consumption of CFCs and halons (at the levels in 1986).

The Protocol aims to freeze the production and consumption of important CFC gases at definite levels — 1986 levels by 1990, reducing to 80 per cent of 1986 levels by 1994 and 50 per cent of these levels by the end of the century.

Moreover co-operation in research, exchange of information and systematic observation of the ozone layer is also envisaged and the London conference is clearly an attempt at further progress.

And progress is fundamental here, as the latest scientific evidence shows that more stringent action is needed urgently by the Protocol to reduce CFCs further.

Lord Caithness said: "The United Kingdom does not think the Montreal Protocol goes far enough, fast enough. Therefore we will be insisting on 85 per cent reduction of CFCs by 1999." In May the parties to the agreement will meet in Helsinki to begin the formal process of reviewing it — but unless more countries actively join in the effort, the situation can only get worse.

If the outlook sounds bleak, all the more reason for taking immediate action, for whilst crises are easily prompted in the frenzy of today's world they are very much harder to solve. In this case, the crisis threatens to develop into an overwhelming catastrophe.

The reasons for this are clear — CFCs and halons are long-lived. They can remain in the lower atmosphere (the troposphere) for 100 years or more, slowly leaking into the stratosphere where they initiate ozone destruction. In other words, what we pump out today will remain with us for a long time to come.

Concentration of CFCs in the troposphere is currently rising at about six per cent a year.

The cause for alarm is that these emissions of man-made gases are extremely damaging to all forms of life, threatening to disturb the balance of the ocean's ecosystems, plant life and agriculture. The so-called "ozone hole" over Antarctica literally spreads like fire. Lord Caithness commented: "The air above the Arctic is prime for ozone depletion.

This historical story based on the classic novel by A.E. Hotchner is set in Nazi occupied Paris during World War II. Against the backdrop of the legendary Ritz Hotel, it is the story of a man whose personal moral dilemmas are depicted by the deadly reality of a violent struggle between the Nazi Gestapo and French Resistance. He is forced to learn that life is only worth living if you are willing to die for it.

On Wednesday at 10:30 Jordan Television channel 2 will show the first part of a new mini series called The man who lived at the Ritz.

By Anthony Barker
Reuters

JOHANNESBURG — A new wave of Afrikaans language rock music is worrying South Africa's dominant minority with a threat of youth revolt against apartheid, militarism and Calvinist morality.

"What a friend we have in P.W.," Johannes Kerkorrel sings sarcastically at the start of a powerful, bluesy rock music act full of topical attacks on President P.W. Botha's government.

The bars launched by Kerkorrel and a few other young Afrikaner musicians hit home because they are in the language of most government ministers and the Dutch-descended whites who dominate officialdom, the army and the policy.

The very name of Kerkorrel's Gereformeerde blues band is a dig at the pro-government Dutch reformed church.

Kerkorrel, 28, mocks the sacred, brooding folk traditions of his people: "you have to make fun of these things, see them in a less serious light."

"I've always felt there was no difference between me and black people. I've never felt this serious hatred, this fear," he told reporters in an interview.

His song "Oosewa" ridicules last year's celebrations of the 1838 Great Trek, the epic bloodstained march Northwards into Africa which gave birth to Afrikaner nationalism.

Blood hair cut short, the slender Kerkorrel grins boyishly as he attacks the huge state weapons maker Armscor in "wapens" (weapons), which lists the whole menagerie of South Africa's armoured vehicles called hippos, buffalos, redcats, cheetahs.

One number savages the rich whites sealed from reality in their luxury limousines, another is a low song about a white conscript forced to patrol the black townships.

Exchanging electric keyboard for an accordion, Kerkorrel evokes the tawdry bohemia, the bookshops and drunks, cafes and seedy nightife of Johannesburg's Hillbrow district.

Change of tone

All this is far from the jolly polkas on Concertina and songs about flowers and seagulls which until now have made up Afrikaner popular music. It has provoked

strong reactions.

"The first time we played in Pretoria there were three fights because of differences of opinion among the audience," said Kerkorrel, whose name means church organ.

The dean of students at Rand Afrikaans University banned him from campus in 1986 for maligning Botha and he lost a job as a journalist on the pro-government newspaper Rapport.

But at a December festival of alternative Afrikaans music in Johannesburg, many of the audience listening to him clearly felt excited to be young Afrikanners in the late 1980s.

"They are hearing things they always wanted to hear," Kerkorrel said.

Until now, Afrikaner dissidents have mainly been serious intellectuals and earnest clergymen, now joined by a growing number of highly-innovative writers, comics and journalists.

They represent an important flowering of South African culture, but they don't have mass appeal. Rock musicians do.

Protest against established Afrikaner attitudes and interests is not that serious if it takes place on the stage or in the works of young writers (how many people actually go to the theatre or read books?)" the magazine De Kat commented.

"But it can get out of hand if it comes through the medium of pop music with its potential to reach many thousands of people," De Kat said last year.

The government agrees. State radio this month banned three tracks of a new album by Afrikaans language musicians.

The radio disapproved of Bernoldus Niemand's song "snor city," which mocks the bureaucrats of Pretoria and the mustaches they all seem to wear, and Randy Rambo and the rough riders who lampoon the mentality of young Afrikaner mothers.

Because they do not sing in English, the alternative Afrikaner rockers will have trouble breaking into international markets or even getting much exposure on South African media.

Kerkorrel has not followed South African Johnny Clegg and U.S. musician Paul Simon in making heavy use of African themes, although some black influences appear amid the band's heavy rock and industrial, high-



Cry, the beloved country: Archbishop Tutu

Young Afrikaners rock to the beat against apartheid

tech sound.

He is unlikely to become rich, despite his many fans.

But he feels Afrikaner thinking has to change, or more people will join groups like the neo-fascist Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB — Afrikaner resistance movement).

"These AWB people, they have their finger on the trigger and they are ready for fun," he said.

"It is crucial for them to control their own paranoia. They must understand there is food enough, room enough for us all."

Of living in South Africa Kerkorrel says: "where else can you be where what you are saying and singing can make a difference?"



An extreme show of force: soldiers ready for action pile out of armoured personnel carriers

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A leading domestic food company in Saudi Arabia, wishes to recruit for two important positions in the Western Province area.

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Cinema PLAZA Tel: 677420

REVENGE OF THE NERDS

Performance: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Oil prices firm on news of supply cuts to Japan

TOKYO (R) — News that Saudi Arabia will cut crude supplies to Japan by 30 per cent in April boosted oil prices in the Far East Tuesday.

"It's going to give the market a good kick," said one international oil trader.

Reports that major Western oil companies bought several cargoes of Middle East crudes on the spot market Monday gave rise to speculation that they also had been informed of a cut in supplies from Saudi Arabia, traders said.

West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark U.S. crude, traded at \$18.70 a barrel for May in Tokyo Tuesday, seven cents over its closing price on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) futures market Monday.

U.S. oil prices hit a seven-week high Monday as news of a temporary shutdown of Norway's Ekofisk oil field prompted technical buying at NYMEX.

"Ekofisk brought the market up yesterday, but that's only temporary and the market's really been supported by today's news of Saudi supply cuts," said a major oil company trader.

High interest rates fail to halt U.K. consumer boom

LONDON (R) — Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson digested an unwelcome rise in consumer spending Monday before an annual budget designed to restore the British government's shakiness.

Official figures showed a 2.5 per cent increase in retail sales in February despite a regime of high interest rates imposed to choke a credit-led consumer shopping boom.

The rise in consumer spending, after a 2.4 per cent fall in January, gave fresh ammunition to

critics of the chancellor's strategy of relying on interest rates to cool the economy.

Opposition Labour Party spokesman Bryan Gould accused Lawson of a "monomania obsession" with interest rates, adding:

"No other chancellor can have stood... to deliver a budget knowing so little about the real state of the British economy."

Politicians and economists expect the budget to comprise a cautious packet of measures to bring down inflation and narrow a huge trade deficit.

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4. Demonstrated ability in conversational Arabic.
Send bio-data (include telephone number) and photocopies of university and English language training documents by March 26, 1989 to:
ELT/NTT
P.O. Box 510876, Ashrefieh
Amman, Jordan

The success or failure of Lawson's sixth budget could be critical to the government's future as it struggles to balance the economy and legislate a series of unpopular privatisations including water and electricity utilities.

Some Conservative supporters who credited Lawson with winning the 1987 election for Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher fear his misjudgment of the economy could cost her power at the next poll which is due by 1992.

The chancellor's reputation has plunged since the forecasts he made in his 1988 budget speech proved wildly wrong.

Inflation, projected at a rate of four per cent by the end of 1988, has hit 6.8 per cent and is still rising.

The trade deficit, predicted by Lawson to be £4 billion (\$6.9 billion) for the year, soared to a record £15 billion (\$26 billion).

The unforeseen economic growth forced Lawson to raise interest rates six times from 7.5 per cent to 13 per cent between last June and November despite industrialists' concern that such increases could help trigger a recession.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

'Asian export growth to slow in 1989'

BANGKOK (R) — Asian nations are likely to see their hectic export expansion slow this year due to weaker world economic growth, a United Nations report said. "In most (Asian) countries, export expansion slowed down in the latter part of 1988 and this deceleration was expected to continue in 1989 and into 1990," the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific said. In its 1988 survey, released at the weekend, the Bangkok-based body said rapid growth in Japanese demand and expanding trade among developing Asian economies boosted the region's exports last year. China, Hong Kong, Pakistan, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand all saw the value of their exports rise by around 20 per cent or faster last year, the survey said. However, it said export growth in the region would be reduced this year by the expected slowdown of the world economy and various factors in specific Asian economies. The factors included the appreciation of the currencies of Taiwan and South Korea, making their goods more expensive abroad, and shortages of manpower and infrastructure in economies including Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and possibly China.

Oman seeks \$500 million loan

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Gulf International Bank (GIB) and Chase Investment Bank Ltd. are arranging a syndicated medium-term loan of \$500 million for the Sultanate of Oman, the GIB has announced. The eight-year, two-tranche loan will comprise a \$400 million Euroloan and another equivalent to \$100 million with an option for conversion into other currencies, an official announcement said. Oman unveiled a \$4.2 billion budget on Jan. 1 forecasting total revenue at around \$3.1 billion this year, of which 75 per cent would be oil-related receipts. The budget deficit of \$900 million widened from a projected shortfall of \$387 million in 1988.

Japan's trade surplus widens

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's trade surplus widened in February for the sixth consecutive month from year-earlier levels, boosted by expanding exports, the finance ministry has said. The surplus reached \$7.219 billion, up from \$5.240 billion in the same month last year and well above January's level of \$3.25 billion, according to ministry figures. Exports in February rose 10.4 per cent from a year earlier to \$22.343 billion, while imports edged up by 0.9 per cent to \$15.124 billion. The figures are compiled as goods passing through customs in February at an exchange rate of around 128.50 yen. Japan's overall trade surplus rose as a result of continued strength in exports, ministry officials said, adding they expected the upward trend to continue at levels five-six per cent above those of one year ago.

Cambodia woos foreign investors

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Cambodia will create all possible favourable conditions for foreign investors as part of its economic reforms. Prime Minister Hun Sen told the country's first national economic conference. Hun Sen reaffirmed that the country "would carry on with its open-door policy toward the national economy whose composition includes state and private sectors." The premier said the government "will create all possible favourable conditions for foreign investors to work in the country so that they can help restore and develop Kampuchea's (Cambodia's) national economy." The government has pared down some of the more orthodox features of socialist planning to try to develop what is one of the world's most impoverished countries.

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- Salary range 225 to JD 275/month, depending on experience.

Qualifications

- Excellent typing/word processing skills in both Arabic and English, 45 words/minute minimum for English (Note: a typing test may be required).
- General office experience at executive level (incl. meeting organization & some dictation (English)).

Please Contact: John McEachern or
Mr. Suleiman Hanbali
NES Project
Dept. of Environment
Tel. 672131

Iran may agree to abandon major petrochemical project

TOKYO (R) — Iran has hinted it might agree to abandon an Iranian-Japanese project to build a giant petrochemical complex, a Mitsui company spokesman has said.

Mitsui officials said they hoped they had broken the impasse over the Iran-Japan Petrochemical Company (IJPC) project which ground to a halt during the Gulf war.

"It's a step forward for friendly separation of our relationship in the project," a Mitsui spokesman said of the latest Iranian position. "The Iranian stand has apparently softened."

Japanese firms led by Mitsui, and Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC), invested 600 billion yen (\$4.6 billion) in the 50-50 joint venture since 1971.

The plant, which would have

been one of the world's biggest petrochemical complexes, was 85 per cent complete when work halted after the Iran-Iraq war broke out in 1980.

Mitsui first indicated it wanted out of the deal 20 months ago when shipping attacks in the Gulf were a daily occurrence. Mitsui formally asked Iran to abandon the project last December but Iran said it needed more time to decide.

A Mitsui spokesman said NPC officials now said they understood Mitsui's view that resuming work on the war-damaged complex was not financially justifiable.

No plans have been made for another round of talks on the project, but Mitsui expects Iranian officials to visit Tokyo in April, the spokesman said.

Hiroshi Watada, president of the Iran Chemical Development Company, a Mitsui-led investment unit for the project, met NPC officials in Tehran last week in a hurriedly-arranged trip at Iran's request.

"At the moment, we cannot say Mitsui and Iran have reached any agreement to wind up the project. Both sides are ready to sit at the bargaining table. That's all," said the Mitsui spokesman.

He quoted Watada as saying that even after a working-level agreement was reached, it would still need approval by senior Iranian government officials.

No plans have been made for another round of talks on the project, but Mitsui expects Iranian officials to visit Tokyo in April, the spokesman said.

Hungary, Romania hope to play big role in Arab oil projects

BAHRAIN (R) — Hungary and Romania may soon play a wider role in the oil industries of conservative Arab Gulf states, representatives attending a Middle East oil show said Tuesday.

Oil and trade officials from the two countries — who were attending the biennial show for the first time — said changes in the Gulf political climate could lead to cooperation in oil exploration, drilling and manufacturing industries.

"We feel there is a change of climate and are very much hopeful this will develop further so that in the future we will be given the opportunity to enter the Saudi market," said Janos Feher, area manager of Hungarian trading firm Chemokomplex.

He said plans to set up plants to produce oil drilling tools in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain had also been discussed and were likely to be finalised within a year.

Feher said Hungary would take part in onshore pipeline construction projects and plant installations in Qatar and help set up a new refinery in North Yemen.

Sanja would announce plans to build the refinery within two months, he added.

A Hungarian businessman who declined to be named said Saudi Arabia had invited Hungarian journalists to the kingdom and a business delegation would visit Riyadh soon.

The four-day oil show in Bahrain ended Tuesday.

U.S. steel users voice complaints

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. steel-using firms, calling for an end to voluntary quotas on steel exports to the United States, have said that the seven-year-old quotas had raised the cost of steel and meant higher prices for consumers.

The firms want an end to the voluntary restraint agreements (VRAs) when they expire Sept. 30 but face opposition from the U.S. steel industry, which says it needs more time to modernise in the face of less expensive foreign steel.

Congressional observers say a bill to extend the VRAs, which cover the European Community and 17 other nations, is all but sure to be approved. President Bush backs the bill.

Paul London, an economist for the Coalition of American Steel Using Manufacturers, told the U.S. International Trade Commission: "VRAs are a kind subsidy, not by the government, but paid for by steel users to the steel industry."

He added that U.S. steel prices were 25 per cent higher than prices in Japan and 20 per cent higher than in Europe.

Fighting for renewed quotas are the American Iron and Steel Institute and the Speciality Steel Industry of the United States.

The House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade asked the commission to hold the hearing to help it consider the extension bill, backed by 40 senators and 100 House members.

An official of Caterpillar Inc., a major user of steel and exporter of heavy and agricultural and construction equipment, told the commission the financial health of steel users must be considered as well as the health of the steel industry.

William Lane said Caterpillar

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, March 14, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0
Pound Sterling	920.0	928.0
Deutschmark	288.1	290.8
Swiss franc	336.7	340.0
French franc	85.0	85.9
Japanese yen (for 100)	413.3	417.2
Dutch guilder	255.4	257.7
Italian lire	84.2	85.0
Swedish krona	39.3	39.6
Belgian francs	137.7	139.0

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES		
Tuesday, March 14, 1989 Central Bank official rates		
One Sterling	1.7125/35	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1970/80	Canadian dollar
	1.8659/64	Deutschmarks
	2.1045/55	Dutch guilders
	1.5955/65	Swiss francs
39 04/07	6.3225/75	Belgian francs
	1368/1369	French francs
	129.95/130.05	Italian lire
	6.3810/60	Japanese yen
	6.7920/70	Swedish kronas
	7.2710/60	Norwegian crowns
One ounce of gold	394.30/394.70	Danish crowns
		U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Investors homed in on selected industrial stocks as the share market edged up slowly in the afternoon in thin volumes. The All Ordinaries rose 3.2 to 1494.0.

TOKYO — Share prices rose to close near their highs in moderately active trade with relative stability in yen-dollar rates spurring buying. The Nikkei index rose 171.39 to 31,735.73.

HONG KONG — As the Hong Kong market tried to reach a consensus about the state of the U.S. economy, stocks rose, fell and rose again to end marginally higher. The Hang Seng firmed 4.90 to 3,034.79.

SINGAPORE — Share prices rose over a broad front on widespread buying, with turnover hitting an all-time high of 102.8 million shares. The Straits Times industrial index rose 6.59 to 1,166.97.

BOMBAY — Share prices fell for a second day after the failure by a stockbroker to honour payments set off nervous long liquidations, brokers said.

FRANKFURT — Shares ended firm but off the day's highs after profit-taking set in and stemmed the initially euphoric mood. The DAX index rose 15.95 to

Bucks on 5 game streak

NEW YORK (AP) — Terry Cummings scored seven points during a decisive 14-4 third-quarter run Monday night, sending the Milwaukee Bucks to their fifth consecutive victory, over the faltering Dallas Mavericks.

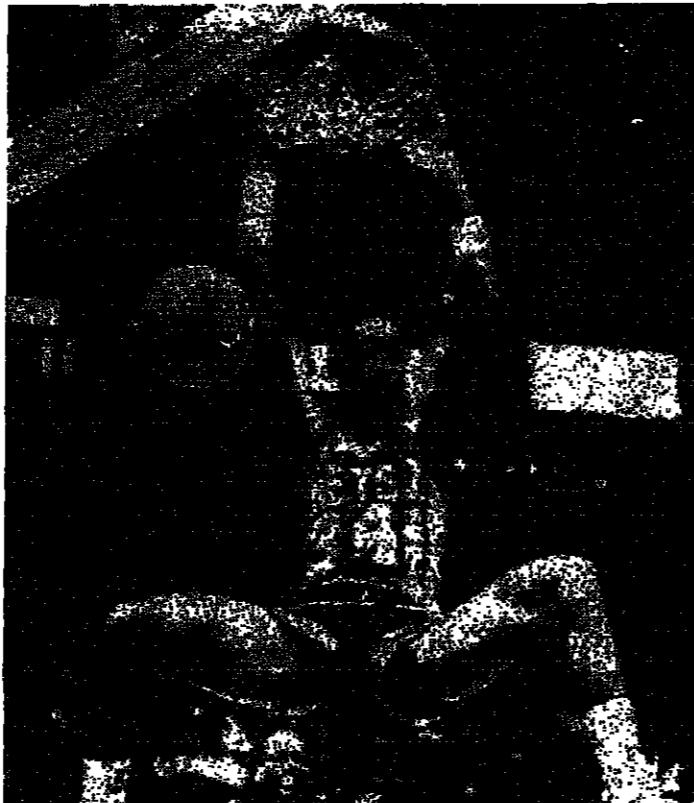
Milwaukee led only 62-59 with 9:23 play in the third period before Cummings started the spurt, hitting a 19-footer from the baseline.

Cummings, who finished with 25 points, added a three-point play and a layup while the Mavericks went almost three minutes without a point.

The Mavericks, who learned starting centre James Donaldson would be lost for the season after undergoing knee surgery Monday, dropped their sixth game in their last nine starts. They play nine of their next 10 games on the road.

Adrian Dantley led Dallas with 18 points. Jack Sikma added 17 points and 12 rebounds for Milwaukee.

Michael Jordan notched his ninth career triple double — double figures in three scoring categories — and Craig Hodges had



Hang on there: despite Chris Morris' valiant efforts for the New Jersey Nets, they went down 91-114 to the might of the Boston Celtics.

Pistons accused of 'plantation basketball'

DETROIT (AP) — The Detroit Pistons have forsaken their namesake city and its majority black population, playing basketball in a distant suburb accessible mainly to affluent whites, a civil rights leader charged.

The National Basketball Association team also has shown insensitivity by failing to hire a black assistant coach when two such vacancies arose in recent months, the Rev. James Holley, president of the Detroit chapter of operation

PUSH, said Monday. People United to Save Humanity, or PUSH, a civil rights group founded by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, threatened to boycott businesses who link their advertising to the Pistons next season if the team fails to address its demands. Most of which involve the financial relationship between the team and black people in Detroit.

A Pistons executive said Holley's criticism was only the latest in a series of complaints that have followed the club

since 1977, when it left the Cobo arena in downtown Detroit for the Pontiac silverdome, some miles to the north. The club this season moved even farther away, to the palace of Auburn Hills.

"We are locked out of our games anyway, so you can't say you're going to picket them," Holley said in a news release. "If they moved there for a business purpose, then we have to deal with it from that standpoint."

"The game they're playing out in Auburn Hills is plantation basketball. Black people performing for the amusement of upscale whites," he said.

"The Pistons deserted Detroit in many ways," Holley wrote in a letter to William Davidson, the club's managing partner. "They moved to the

outer suburbs. No provisions have been made for public transportation so loyal inner-city fans can get to the games.

"They made ticket prices higher than any other team in the NBA and well beyond the reach of inner-city youths," Holley wrote. "They have completely taken the team away from Detroit young people who, besides enjoying the games, look to the players as role models."

Holley said the team should drop Detroit from its name unless it addressed operation PUSH's grievances.

Eleven of the 12 players currently on the Pistons roster are black. The team has replaced two white assistant coaches with other whites since the 1987-88 season ended.

Toronto hearings continue

Star confirms coach's evidence

TORONTO (AP) — Confirming testimony by Ben Johnson's coach of steroid use, female sprinter Angela Taylor Issajenko Monday said she started to use the banned substances 10 years ago "to give me the extra edge I needed."

She also told the Canadian inquiry into drugs and athletics that American shotputter Brian Oldfield gave her steroid tablets and an injection in 1981.

"I don't want to blame it all on him," she said. "I asked for it."

Issajenko said she first took steroids in 1979 after she was soundly beaten by East German athletes at a dual meet.

"I saw these people and I wanted to be like them," she said. "I wanted to be just as fast as they were."

Issajenko read from her diary in which she kept a precise record of steroid types and doses.

Ontario associate justice Charles Dubin said the diary, which contained personal information, did not have to be submitted as evidence to become part of the public record.

She said the decision to take steroids was made after discussions with Charlie Francis, her coach as well as Johnson's.

Ice-skating in Paris in the spring... anyone's game

PARIS (AP) — Kurt Browning said Fadiev, the veteran Soviet skater who won the world championships in 1985 and retained his European title in Birmingham, England, last January, had a slight edge over the others.

"Because of Aleksander's past and experience, he has the potential to win," Browning, who placed sixth last year in Budapest, Hungary, said. "He's been there more often than any of us."

The first test for all the contenders comes with Tuesday's compulsories, the supreme test of a skater's precision and technical expertise.

Both Browning and Bowman criticised the phasing out of the long-established figures. Reduced this year from three to two and from 30 per cent to 20 per cent of the total mark, they are due to be eliminated in July.

"I'm disappointed because my parents, myself and my coach have spent years working on the figures," Browning said. "I'm just starting not only to enjoy them but to get good at them. Now that they are being eliminated, it's like buying a compact disc and finding out they've made something better."

Browning said the figures should either stay as they are, or be kicked out for good.

told Toronto Star that she, Johnson and other athletes in Francis' group used steroids and that the coach should not be getting the blame.

"When I read how he's so innocent and Charlie Francis is so guilty, I want to scream at Ben to tell the truth," she was quoted as saying. "Stop lying and tell everyone you take steroids and you know you take steroids."

There were later conflicting reports, however, on whether she was denying the comments. Her husband, former sprinter Tom Issajenko, said that she had received death threats.

Francis concluded his appearance Friday before the commission by saying he hoped his admissions would lead to a cleanup of track and field.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Tyson to visit Indonesia to see IBF title bout

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — World heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson and promoter Don King are expected to attend an International Boxing Federation title bout in Jakarta later this month, a promoter said Monday. Ferry Moniaga, who will promote the March 23 bout between IBF straw-weight champion Samuth Sithanareupol of Thailand and Indonesian challenger Nico Thomas, said his office had received a confirmation of the visit by Tyson and King. "Their visit has been definite," said Moniaga, a former boxer. "We have received a facsimile Saturday from the IBF, confirming Tyson's and King's visit." Moniaga refused to disclose how much money Tyson and King would receive for the visit.

Alain Prost detained at airport

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Airport police held Formula One racing driver Alain Prost up when the Frenchman arrived in Brazil Monday. Police stopped Prost and 18 members of Britain's Williams team arriving in Rio for the first race of the new Formula One season on March 26, saying they had tourist visas instead of temporary work visas, O Estado News Agency reported. Prost and the Williams team members were allowed to leave the airport after five hours. Police gave the Brazilian motor racing organisation three days to sort out the problem with the Foreign Ministry.

Carson may quit after trainer loses stables

LONDON (R) — Five times champion jockey Willie Carson has threatened to quit horse racing if royal trainer Dick Hern is unable to find new premises after being told to leave the West Isley stables owned by Queen Elizabeth. A Buckingham Palace spokesman said Monday that Hern's lease would not be renewed when it ran out in November and Newmarket-based Willie Hastings-Bass, 41, would take over the yard in Southern England. Carson, 46, said he was very disappointed by the news which had put his own riding career in doubt. "It all depends whether Major Hern can find good stables. I intend to stand by him and if he cannot find replacement stables my future must be regarded as being in jeopardy," Carson said.

CAREFULLY BLENDED COFFEES ARABIC-PERCULATED-EXPRESSO AND EXPERTLY ROASTED DAILY AT RUKN ALDIYAF



SWEIFIYEH TEL. 828281

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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KEEP SOME SECRETS FROM DECLARER

Neither vulnerable, North deals.

NORTH
♦ A 7 4
♥ 6 3
♦ 8 2
♣ A Q 9 5 2

WEST
♦ K 9 6 2
♥ 8 5
♦ 8 5
♣ A 9 5 3

EAST
♦ 10 8 5
♥ K Q J 10 7 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ K 3

SOUTH
♦ K Q 10 7
♥ A 9 4
♦ 10 6
♣ K 10 7

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♦

We know of a famous internationalist who, when he sat down at the rubber bridge table, would announce to his partner: "Don't signal me; I know what to do!" His edict was only half in jest. He was afraid of what his partner might tell declarer!

North-South arrived at a fairly routine contract of three no trumps. It was the right game to reach—as the cards lie, five of either minor stood no chance after a heart lead.

East's ten of hearts was allowed to hold the first trick. Anxious to advise his partner that his entry was in the lowest-ranking side suit, East returned the jack of hearts and, when that too was permitted to win, he emphasized his message with an exclamation point by continuing with the two. West signalled vigorously in diamonds.

In with the ace of hearts and with only five fast tricks in sight, declarer had to decide which minor suit to develop. He decided to take the defenders' carding at face value. Since he had been informed that East held the king of clubs, declarer went after the diamond suit. West took his ace and dutifully shifted to a club, but it was too little, too late. Declarer rose with the ace of clubs and cashed out his nine tricks—three spades, one heart, four diamonds and one club.

In situations of this sort the defenders shouldn't bother to signal at all! After winning the first trick with the ten, East should simply continue with the king and queen of hearts, and West should do nothing to tip off his diamond holding. In view of the overall, declarer is more likely to place East with the ace of diamonds than the king of clubs, and so take the club finesse. That would result in a three-trick set!

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charted By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Mind and emotions connect to bring forth original ideas and thinking. Be alert for a new concept that needs a plan of action to make it useful. Avoid letting pessimism stand in the way.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A current romantic involvement is not on firm ground. A break with tradition may be necessary to maintain emotional balance.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) The current cycle shows an improving financial picture. You discover a unique relationship with the opposite sex.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You will not get something for nothing, so investigate deals carefully. You are satisfied with yourself and tend to be overly optimistic.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Attraction with color, pattern and harmony shows you where to brighten up the household. A love relationship receives a boost.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Listening to those who are pessimistic will bring you down to their level. Stay away from skeptics who rob you of your enthusiasm.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Originality and self-confidence is highlighted today. Be on the lookout for places to expand ideas during the next few days.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Someone nice, fair and well-respected offers you help. Establish

a deadline for completing chores and personal matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Expect to have a few ruffled emotions today. Keep plans flexible and stay one step ahead of the competition.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plans are subject to change without notice, so be prepared. Family adjustments are needed to handle a fairness issue.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Taking care of a legal matter now will save you from a potential embarrassing situation. A relationship may not be worth the trouble.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Money matters impact strongly. A family meeting would be in order. Much can be done to solve problems if you act now.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Keep on tiring and you may send the wrong message. Take action and do something concrete that will affirm your intentions.

If Your Child Is Born Today

He or she will be easygoing, sentimental and loyal, with a nature that seeks to nurture and protect others. Expect your child to use intuition, instinct, and feelings rather than logic and rationale. Your son or daughter's mental powers will be penetrating and unassuming.

The Stars impel you to not compete! What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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Peanuts

YES, MA'AM, I SAW YOU AT OUR GAME LAST WEEK...AND I SAW YOU GET INTO THAT OTHER CAR AND LEAVE...

THAT FELLOW YOU LEFT WITH...DO WE KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM?

SORRY, MA'AM...I SOUND LIKE YOUR FATHER OR SOMETHING, DON'T I?

Mutt'n Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF

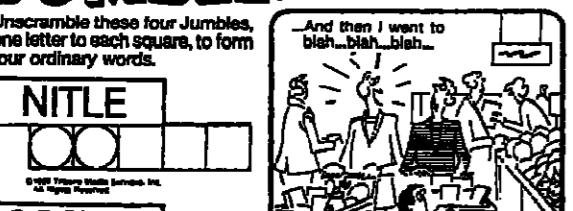
By Harris



"He's improving. I got him to kiss me more often, but he still wears the wax lips."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnould and Bob Lee



And then I went to Blah-blah-blah...

WHAT GOES ON AND ON AND HAS 'ONESELF' IN THE MIDDLE?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: - -

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: CHANT LANKY POLICY BUCKLE
Answer: What the chiropractor's fees amounted to—"BACK" PAY

Moscow cracks down on demonstrations

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet authorities detained at least 240 demonstrators in two cities who likened communism to Czarist tyranny and jammed U.S.-financed Radio Liberty Monday as it reported on the protests, activists said.

It was the widest reported crackdown in months on demonstrators in Moscow and Leningrad reported and the first jamming of Radio Liberty since the Soviets halted the practice last fall under President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's programme for greater openness.

Valery Terekhev, 40, said he was one of more than 200 people detained Sunday in Leningrad in connection with an unauthorised three-hour demonstration calling for multi-party democracy in the Soviet Union.

"I think there have never been so many people detained in Leningrad," Terekhev said in a telephone interview.

All of those detained were released pending trials set for Wednesday through Friday, said Terekhev, a member of the Democratic Union, an independent political party that challenges the monopoly of the Communist Party on political power.

He said 15 buses brought some 2,000 police, some with dogs, to round up Leningrad protesters demonstrating on the 72nd anniversary of the 1917 overthrow of the Russian monarchy.

The revolution occurred in February according to the old-style religious calendar then in use but in March according to the modern calendar.

Terekhev said Grigoryants called a hunger strike, but that little else was known because his trial was closed.

Radio Liberty's reports on the demonstrations and similar protests in the Siberian city of Irkutsk and the Volga industrial city of Kuibyshev were jammed Sunday, said Mityunov, a journalist, whose commentaries are aired on the radio's Russian-language broadcasts

Democratic Union. One of the slogans of the multi-city demonstrations was:

"Against the absolutism of the Communist Party," which echoed a slogan of the anti-Czarist forces in 1917. "Against the absolutism of the Czar," Mityunov said.

One of those taken away by Moscow police, Sergei Grigoryants, editor of the now defunct magazine Glasnost had already been tried and was sentenced to a 10-day jail term and a 150-ruble fine, said Viktor Reznikov, another Glasnost editor. The critically outspoken magazine stopped publication after being raided by police last year.

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Walking in the halls of Salem, Massachusetts prison, Greek banker George Koskotas, has nowhere to go.

Papandreou, U.S. tensions high over banker

ATHENS (AP) — The government narrowly survived a censure motion over a finance scandal Tuesday, and Premier Andreas Papandreou suggested the United States had an interest in helping a Greek banker who accused him of accepting million-dollar payments.

Papandreou spoke in parliament Monday before midnight voting on the censure motion, submitted by the conservative opposition New Democracy Party. His Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) holds 157 of parliament's 300 seats and defeated the motion by 155-123 votes early Tuesday.

A majority of votes for the censure motion would have resulted in dissolution of parliament and new elections. The vote followed three days of occasionally fierce debate.

PASOK deputies cheered and applauded when speaker Yiannis Alevras announced the result. Af-

ter the vote, Papandreou announced that three PASOK deputies who abstained would be dismissed from the party.

There were 278 present in the chamber, PASOK picked up a vote from an independent deputy.

New Democracy, which controls 111 seats, received additional support from independents and a small conservative splinter group, the communists, with 10 seats, abstained.

Papandreou took issue with U.S. denial that a self-proclaimed Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) agent had ever worked for the CIA of the United States. The purported agent, Tom Mailis, told a parliamentary fact-finding committee last week that banker George Koskotas was a CIA agent trying to destabilise Greece.

"The statement issued by the United States embassy that Mr. Mailis was not part of the CIA is unacceptable," Papandreou said, after the embassy released a formal comment Monday.

Mailis has not been available for further comment.

Koskotas fled Greece last November after being indicted on a \$200-million fraud, forgery and embezzlement scandal.

He was arrested in the United States and is in jail in Salem, Massachusetts, awaiting an extradition hearing.

Koskotas has alleged that Papandreou and senior cabinet members authorised plans to siphon millions of dollars from the Bank of Crete while he was chairman. He also claimed they received millions of dollars in payoffs.

Most of the banker's allegations were reported in the March 13 issue of the U.S. news magazine Time. Papandreou has said he will sue Time.

Constantine Mitsotakis, leader of the New Democracy Party,

accused Papandreou of not responding to the allegations and called his charges of CIA involvement "a children's story."

"It is not the foreign and domestic centres that are destabilising Greece," Mitsotakis said, adding that "You are the ones that have turned Greece into a banana republic."

Mitsotakis said PASOK officials were "deeply involved" in the Koskotas affair and reiterated opposition charges that the government had been involved in illegal arms shipments to the Sandinista government in Nicaragua and to Iran and Iraq when those two countries were at war.

Papandreou did not respond to the allegations except to say that "Mr. Mitsotakis went onboard tonight with his lies and slander."

He said without elaboration that a recently published book titled "The Cocaine Wars" revealed Mailis had worked for the agency.



007 turns down licence to thrill

LONDON (R) — Roger Moore, the British actor best known for his film portrayal of tongue-in-cheek spy James Bond, walked out of the lead role of a stage musical Monday — month before the premiere. A London stage singing debut to Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Aspects of Love* was to be the toughest assignment of the man who played 007, the spy licensed to kill on screen. But six weeks into rehearsals, the 61-year-old actor with the baritone voice decided he was not up to the job. "I now do not think the musical stage is for me," he told reporters. "After many hours of rehearsal and much soul-searching I have come to a most difficult decision." The musical, which has already sold out for months ahead, is a love story between a young Englishman and a penniless French actress. Moore agreed to play a romantic aristocrat George Dillingham after Lloyd Webber heard him sing at a private party. Lloyd Webber said: "I think perhaps that I underestimated the vocal demands of the role because I so much wanted Roger to play it. But I have to accept his judgment and recognise his right to protect his own high standards."

Mrs. Peru wins Mrs. World pageant

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A Peruvian charity worker and mother of two beat out 38 other contestants Monday to win the Mrs. World pageant competition. Lucila Boggiano de Zoeger, 23, was crowned the new Mrs. World during ceremonies at the Flamingo Hilton. The pageant was taped for a later syndicated television broadcast.

Mrs. Peru topped

first runner-up Savinee Pachinsawat of Thailand to win the competition among married women from 39 countries. Mrs. America Jennifer Kline of Tonka Bay, Minnesota, was the second runner-up, while Mrs. USSR, Irina Suvorova of Moscow, finished fourth. Rounding out the top five was Valarie Carter of Singapore. The new Mrs. World is a volunteer for the Foundation for Peace in Peru and a resident of Ferreñafe, Peru. She is the mother of two children, ages three and two.

60-year-old woman jailed for drug peddling

SYRACUSE, New York (AP) — A 60-year-old woman was sentenced Monday to 20 years to life in state prison for selling a half-pound (.22 of a kilogramme) of cocaine to an undercover police investigator. The defence attorney for Martha Weatherspoon objected to the sentence as "a little harsh," noting that his client would be 80 before she is eligible for parole. "At her age, it is life," said the lawyer, Hurcile Maye. Weatherspoon, a Syracuse resident, was convicted in January of first-degree criminal sale and possession of a controlled substance and other drug-related charges. She admitted to selling 8 ounces (.22 of a kilogramme) of cocaine last October for \$8,000.

Biologist spends 5 days in tiny world

ORACLE, Arizona (AP) — Marine biologist Abigail Alling ended five days of isolation in a tiny greenhouse-like enclosure on Monday and said the experimental environment was "truly paradise." "What surprised me was how easy and relaxed the whole thing was," Ms. Alling said after stepping out of the 23-foot-square (2-square-metres) enclosure that cut her off from the rest of earth's environment. The miniaturised ecosystem inside the test module provided her air, food, water and all other needs for her survival.

No more mafia 'hospital holiday'

ROME (R) — Italy's top anti-mafia investigator says some convicted mobsters are spending too much time in hospital instead of jail and ordered a halt to it. Anti-mafia High Commissioner Domenico Sica said some gang bosses had spent up to two years in hospital in the Sicilian capital Palermo compared with the average two weeks for most patients. "We believe there is an obvious anomaly... and it has got to be put right as soon as possible," Sica said in a letter to magistrates and hospital officials. "The state cannot tolerate easy admissions to hospital for non-existent illnesses." The letter, published in newspapers Sunday, follows mounting concern about the apparent ease with which mafia clan chieftains are able to leave prison for hospital.

Santiago promises action after cyanide fruit scare

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — The government has promised to protect Chilean fruit from further contamination and is blaming terrorists and communists for a cyanide scare that threatens one of the country's most lucrative exports.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Monday warned consumers not to eat any fruit imported from Chile after traces of cyanide were found in Chilean seedless red grapes in Philadelphia.

The cyanide was discovered after an anonymous threat to poison Chilean fruit was tele-

phoned to the U.S. embassy in Santiago March 2.

Interior Minister Carlos Carceres said Chile "will continue to be a dependable supplier" to the international fruit market.

Security has been reinforced throughout the fruit-exporting process "from the crop to the port of destiny," he said.

Caceres said an investigation conducted after the anonymous caller said some export fruits would be laced with poison had uncovered no problem.

"We have now come from the anonymous threat to the concrete damage," he added.

Chile has been under right-wing military rule since Sept. 11, 1973, when the armed forces ousted the elected government of Marxist President Salvador Allende. The coup was led by General Augusto Pinochet, the

Malawi floods leave thousands homeless

BANGULA (R) — Floods have devastated southern Malawi, making 50,000 people homeless and forcing some to cling to the branches of trees to escape death.

The floods, caused by a week of torrential rain, have washed away villages and destroyed crops, livestock and communications in the central African country's most densely populated region.

"I escaped only with my life," said Linson Moffat, a fisherman whose village near Bangula was swept away.

"Everything has gone. My house, chickens, goats, fishing nets. I have recovered nothing."

The floods, believed to be the worst in 30 years, also swept through the central region, a few days before an earthquake

hit the area killing at least eight people.

Only six flood-related deaths have so far been reported, but dozens of villagers are thought to have drowned.

The double tragedy was a serious blow to Malawi, whose agriculture-based economy has been under strain from an influx of 600,000 refugees fleeing war and famine in neighbouring Mozambique.

Harshest hit was the southern district of Nsanje where some 230,000 Mozambican refugees live. Officials said an estimated 30,000 people in Nsanje and 20,000 in nearby Chikwawa district were homeless.

Thousands of people have crowded into empty warehouses or sought shelter with friends and relatives living on higher ground.

The government plans to appeal for international help after assessing the damage.

One official estimated it would be six months before the lives of most people returned to normal.

Austro-Hungary last empress dies

VIENNA (R) — Zita, the last empress of Austria and queen of Hungary, died Tuesday aged 96 in Switzerland where she had lived in exile, since leaving Vienna with her husband in 1918 when the Habsburg monarchy collapsed after Austria's defeat in World War I.

She died in her apartment in a former Franciscan convent in the village of Zizers in the upper Rhine Valley, close to the Austrian border, said the announcement issued through her son Otto von Habsburg.

A devout Catholic, the former empress lived simply and austere in the former convent since 1962 in sharp contrast with the royal palaces in Vienna and Budapest she once enjoyed.

Her small, frail figure had been clad in mourning black ever since her husband died in 1922, leaving her to raise their children alone. She rarely appeared in public.

Zita was born May 9, 1892, at

Pianore, near Pisa, Italy, into the large family of Duke Robert of Parma. In October 1911, at the age of 19, she married Archduke Karl, a grand-nephew of the aged Austro-Hungarian Emperor Franz Josef.

Some three years later Karl became crown prince following the assassination in Sarajevo in June 1914 of the emperor's nephew and heir, Arch-Duke Ferdinand.

The murder ignited World War I, in which Austria-Hungary was allied with Germany against France, Britain and Russia. Franz Josef died in November 1916, aged 86, and Karl and Zita succeeded him.

The announcement of her death came in a statement issued in Vienna by the Pan-European Union, a group that campaigns for political unity in Europe and is headed by her eldest son Otto.

Otto, 76, present head of the House of Habsburg, abandoned

claims to the monarchy in 1961

and took West German citizenship. He is a member of the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

When Zita's husband died in 1922, the couple were living on the Portuguese island of Madeira where they had been banished by the victorious Western allies after two ill-fated post-war attempts to regain the throne of Hungary.

For 63 years she was barred from entering Austria under a 1918 law forbidding members of the imperial family to return unless they abandoned all claims to their former titles.

Zita refused to comply and had to content with a view of Austria's mountains from the windows of her Swiss exile.

But in May 1982 the Viennese authorities allowed her, then aged 90, to visit the grave of her eldest daughter, Adelheid, in the Tyrolean village of Tulfes, near Innsbruck.

Each passenger then receives a brief call telling them when to be at the airport. On arrival, they check in at a special desk and are given a bright blue badge with their boarding passes. Only then do they know what their destination will be.

"There's one man who's been four times already and several who have been more than once. Whenever we get repeat bookings we try our best to send them to a different destination," Moerman said.

Promenaders can buy tickets up to Friday afternoon, when Sabena checks the number of seats available — usually between 50 and 500 — and decides who will be flying where.

Sabena says it devised the "air promenades" scheme to promote air travel, fill empty seats at weekends and encourage people to stick with the airline in future.

"The promotional impact is fantastic. In Europe people fly much less than in the United States. Half of all Americans have flown, here the figure is 15 per cent," said Achille Moerman, Sabena's European head of marketing.

"After you've taken meals and everything else into account, we don't make a profit on the fares. It's the same

Protest papers hit stands

CHICAGO (AP) — Thousands of newspaper readers in San Francisco, Chicago and Springfield, Illinois, Monday found mock-ups of their favourite dailies spouting anti-war barbs printed by groups protesting U.S. policy in El Salvador. Groups in the three cities said they placed fake front pages around actual copies of the papers in vending machines. Officials at all three papers denounced the imitations, and at least two were considering legal action.

At first glance, the fake front pages appeared to be the real fronts of the Chicago Tribune, the San Francisco Chronicle and the (Springfield) state journal-register, but readers got a surprise on closer examination. The fake Chicago Tribune had the newspaper's masthead but contained stories with headlines proclaiming "U.S. at war in El Salvador," and "Death Squad Activities." Tribune officials said, "The other phony newspapers had similar headlines. Bleary-eyed commuters in San Francisco might not have immediately noticed that their newspaper was called the "Chornicle," not the "Chronicle," but they may have done a double-take at the front-page apology from "Chornicle" editors for the newspaper's coverage of El Salvador.

U.S. to seek more contra aid

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. government is preparing to ask Congress for more humanitarian aid for the Nicaraguan contras at a time when the rebels also are enjoying greater diplomatic acceptance in the region than they had previously. Although no final decision has been made, U.S. officials said Monday they expect the request probably will exceed \$50 million. Contra leader Adolfo Calero said after a meeting with U.S. State Department officials the request will be "40 some odd million dollars."

Crew missing from tanker

TOKYO (AP) — Twenty-three crew members were reported missing after their chemical tanker carrying flammable liquids exploded and burst into flames off the coast of central Japan Tuesday morning, a coast guard official said. The 23,038-ton Maasgusar "is still burning and explosions are rippling through its body," said Akira Sasaki of the Maritime Safety Agency. He said the vessel was tilting to the left but was still floating. The crew of 23 men, including 19 from the Philippines and four from England, were reported missing.

Power failure in Quebec

MONTREAL (AP) — Millions of Quebec residents were left without power